Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A die press, comprising:

a base;

opposing first and second supports extending from the base;

at least one cam member that is supported by the opposing supports;

means for rotating the cam member;

at least one bearing located on the cam member;

a platen positioned generally between the at least one bearing and the base;

and a cover being unitary with the platen, the cover being slidably engaged with the opposing supports to guide the platen during operation of the die press.

2. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the cover has a first end that is slidably engaged with the first support, and a second end that is slidably engaged with the second support.

3. (Original) The die press according to Claim 2, wherein the cover has a first end cap and a second end cap so that the first and second supports are generally encompassed.

4. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the cover includes at least one stiffening component.

5. (Original) The die press according to Claim 4, wherein the stiffening component is at least one rib.

6. (Original) The die press according to Claim 5, wherein the at least one rib is located internally of the cover.

7. (Original) The die press according to Claim 4, wherein the cover includes a plurality of ribs.

8. (Original) The die press according to Claim 7, wherein at least one rib includes at least one cutout to accomodate the at the least one bearing.

9. (Original) The die press according to Claim 7, wherein the ribs include cutouts to accomodate a plurality of bearings located on the cam member.

10. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the cover is attached to the platen.

11. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the means for rotating the cam member includes a lever member extending from the cam member.

12. (Original) The die press according to Claim 11, wherein the lever member is a handle extending from the cam member.

13. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the rotation of the cam member provides for movement of the platen.

14. (Original) The die press according to Claim 13, wherein forces are transferred from the cam member to the platen when the cam member is rotated.

15. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the platen is an upper platen.

16. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a die into a working area between the platen and the base.

17. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a shuttle into a working area between the platen and the base.

18. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the base further includes a pair of opposing rails defining a track.

19. (Original) The die press according to Claim 18, wherein each rail further includes a cutout.

20. (Original) The die press according to Claim 19, wherein the cutouts oppose each other to define a track so that a die or shuttle may be moved along the track into and out of a working area between the platen and the base.

21. (Original) The die press according to Claim 1, wherein the opposing supports have front and rear surfaces, and the cover is slidably engaged with the opposing

supports at the front and rear surfaces of the opposing supports to guide the upper platen during operation of the die press and to resist torsional forces.

22. (Original) The die press according to Claim 20, wherein the opposing supports have front and rear surfaces, and the cover is slidably engaged with the opposing supports at the front and rear surfaces of the opposing supports to guide the upper platen during operation of the die press and to resist torsional forces.

23. (Original) The die press according to Claim 18, wherein the base further includes a center rail extending from the base, the center rail being located between the two rails.

24. (Original) A die press, comprising:

a base;

opposing first and second supports extending from the base;

a cam member that is supported by the opposing supports;

means for rotating the cam member;

a plurality of bearings located on the cam member;

an upper platen positioned generally between the bearings and the base; and

a cover being attached to the platen to define a unitary structure, the cover being slidably engaged with the opposing supports to guide the upper platen during operation of the die press and to resist torsional forces.

25. (Original) The die press according to Claim 24, wherein the cover includes a plurality of stiffening ribs.

26. (Original) The die press according to Claim 24, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a die into a working area between the platen and the base.

27. (Original) The die press according to Claim 24, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a shuttle into a working area between the platen and the base.

28. (Original) The die press according to Claim 24, wherein the base further includes a pair of opposing rails defining a track.

29. (Original) The die press according to Claim 28, wherein each rail further includes a cutout.

30. (Original) The die press according to Claim 29, wherein the cutouts oppose each other to define a track so that a die or shuttle may be moved along the track into and out of a working area between the platen and the base.

31. (Original) The die press according to Claim 28, wherein the base further includes a center rail extending from the base, the center rail being located between the two rails.

32. (Currently amended) A die press, comprising:

a base;

at least two opposing supports extending from the base;

at least one cam member that is supported by the opposing supports;

a handle extending from the cam member; and

an upper platen positioned between the bearings and the base, the base further including at least two rails extending from the base, the rails being adapted to support a die.

33. (Original) The die press according to Claim 32, wherein the base further includes a center rail extending from the base, the center rail being located between the two rails.

34. (Original) The die press according to Claim 32, wherein each rail further includes a cutout.

35. (Original) The die press according to Claim 34, wherein the cutouts oppose each other to define a track so that a die or shuttle may be moved along the track into and out of a working area between the platen and the base.

36. (New) The die press, comprising:

a base;

opposing first and second supports extending from the base;

at least one cam member that is supported by the opposing supports;

means for rotating the cam member;

at least one bearing located on the cam member;

a platen positioned generally between the at least one bearing and the base; and

a rail extending from the base.

37. (New) The die press according to claim 36, further comprising a cover being unitary with the platen, the cover being slidably engaged with the opposing supports to guide the platen during operation of the die press.

38. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the rail is a center rail extending upward from the base.

39. (New) The die press according to claim 38, wherein the center rail has a chamfered corner.

40. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the cover has a first end that is slidably engaged with the first support, and a second end that is slidably engaged with the second support.

41. (New) The die press according to claim 40, wherein the cover has a first end cap and a second end cap so that the first and second supports are generally encompassed.

42. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the cover includes at least one stiffening component.

43. (New) The die press according to claim 42, wherein the stiffening component is at least one rib.

44. (New) The die press according to claim 43, wherein the at least one rib is located internally of the cover.

45. (New) The die press according to claim 42, wherein the cover includes a plurality of ribs.

46. (New) The die press according to claim 45, wherein at least one rib includes at least one cutout to accommodate the at least one bearing.

47. (New) The die press according to claim 45, wherein the ribs include cutouts to accomodate a plurality of bearings located on the cam member.

48. (New) The die press according to claim 37, wherein the cover is attached to the platen.

49. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the means for rotating the cam member includes a lever member extending from the cam member.

50. (New) The die press according to claim 49, wherein the lever member is a handle extending from the cam member.

51. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the rotation of the cam member provides for movement of the platen.

52. (New) The die press according to claim 51, wherein forces are transferred from the cam member to the platen when the cam member is rotated.

53. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the platen is an upper platen.

54. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a die into a working area between the platen and the base.

55. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the die press further includes means for feeding a shuttle into a working area between the platen and the base.

56. (New) The die press according to claim 36, wherein the base further includes a pair of opposing rails defining a track.

57. (New) The die press according to claim 56, wherein each rail further includes a cutout.

58. (New) The die press according to claim 57, wherein the cutouts oppose each other to define a track so that a die or shuttle may be moved along the track into and out of a working area between the platen and the base.

59. (New) The die press according to claim 58, wherein the opposing supports have front and rear surfaces, and the cover is slidably engaged with the opposing supports at the front and rear surfaces of the opposing supports to guide the upper platen during operation of the die press and to resist torsional forces.

60. (New) The die press according to claim 56, wherein the base further includes the rail extending from the base, the center rail being located between the two rails.

61. (New) The die press according to claim 37, wherein the opposing supports have front and rear surfaces, and the cover is slidably engaged with the opposing supports at the front and rear surfaces of the opposing supports to guide the upper platen during operation of the die press and to resist torsional forces.